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REPORT NO.   
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COUNTRY USSR/Germany (Soviet Zone)

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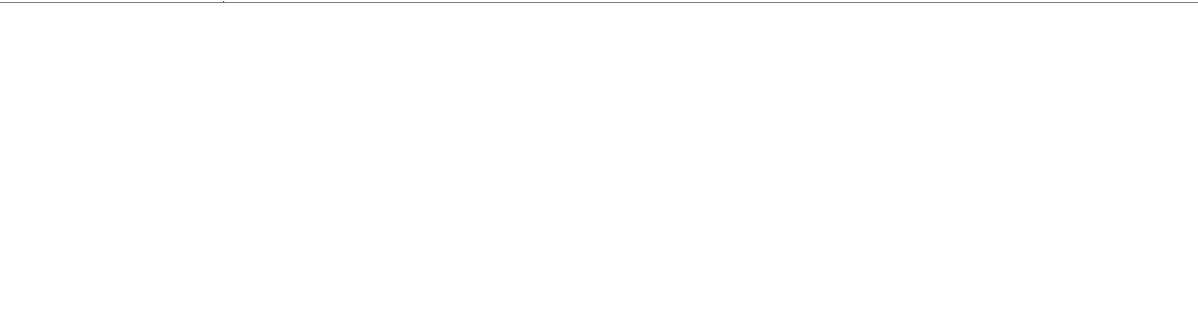
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DATE OF INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

PLACE ACQUIRED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION



50X1 BASIC TRAINING

50X1 Tactical Training

1.  one month of basic training  in Dauriya (N 50-00, E 11-700), in eastern Siberia, prior to  assignment in East Germany. This included only a few hours of squad and platoon-level tactical training for all personnel. No first aid, chemical, or any other sort of tactical training was given. The rudimentary training the recruits did get was haphazard and inefficiently conducted, only a farce   platoon leader in basic training, a lieutenant, took the platoon to an open field, told them to get in a skirmish line, and then told them to run across the field. At the other end of the field, they all sat down and did nothing more. Sometimes the recruits sat there for two hours and then returned to the battalion area.

Rifle Instruction

2. Almost every day at least five hours was spent in studying the rifle (7.62 mm, Mossin-Nagant, M30), the M44 Carbine, and PPSH 1944 SMG. For days the platoon disassembled, cleaned, and assembled these weapons. Source's unit fired the SMG twice during the month. Both times, each man fired 16 rounds familiarization fire from the SMG. No scores were kept.  there were only 10 SMGs for the whole battalion and that only one company fired at a time. When they were taking PRI training, only one platoon at a time received instruction because of the lack of weapons. Eight rifles and eight carbines were kept in the battalion arms room and used for instructional purposes.

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Political Training

3. Political training was given on Mondays and Fridays in two-hour sessions. This training was conducted by a captain who was not one of the regular officers of the battalion and whose name was unknown. The subjects for the talks were taken from newspapers, and usually speeches of Soviet dignitaries were read.

Training Schedules

4. [ ] a typical daily schedule that was followed during basic training:

Reveille	0600-0605
Clean-up and personal hygiene	0605-0645
Morning inspection	0645-0700
Breakfast	0700-0800
Training	0800-1300
Clean-up and rest period	1300-1400
Dinner	1400-1440
Compulsory rest period	1440-1630
Training	1630-1830
Free time	1830-2200
Supper	2200-2240
Evening inspection and roll call	2240-2300
Taps and bed check	2300

Size of Training Cycles

[ ] when [ ] training battalion consisting of about 400 men had completed basic training, another group of 400 men was waiting to begin. This other group of men had arrived about five days prior to the departure of source's group to Germany.

Physical Examinations

6. Upon arrival at [ ] basic training battalion, all the new men were given a physical examination which was more thorough than the physical examination that was given at the Voenkomat prior to induction. About 15 men were declared physically unfit and sent back.

Clothing Issue

7. The following day, the men were issued their military clothing and assigned to a company and a squad. The battalion CO, a lieutenant colonel, instructed them to pack up their civilian clothing in which they had reported to the battalion and to address the package to their home address. However, about a week later, the men saw some soldiers cleaning tanks and trucks with rags that some of the men identified as being the civilian clothes that were supposed to have been sent home.

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## TRAINING

Battalion Refresher Training

8. [redacted] newly assigned men were taken to battalion headquarters for two weeks of processing and training. Upon completion of processing, [redacted] assigned to the [redacted] battalion. During the two weeks of processing, [redacted] attended several lectures, participated in close-order drill, and fired two or three rounds of familiarization fire from the SMG on two occasions. At the lecture classes, the new men were told what their individual jobs were and also were told how they were to keep records, check vehicles, and how they were to conduct themselves when on a walking patrol. 50X1
9. After the theoretical introduction to patrol and vehicle check-point operation, the recruits also had some practical training in the caserne area, usually under the direction of an NCO. They practiced stopping vehicles, checking credentials of the occupants of the vehicle, and making proper entries in a log book. They also practiced the proper method of conducting a walking patrol. 50X1
10. All the new men were interviewed individually by the battalion political officer, a captain who was also the Komsomol secretary. Simple questions were asked in regard to individual backgrounds, political views, and family histories. The soldiers were asked individually whether or not they or any members of their families had been convicted of crimes at any time, and if so, the nature of the offense. [redacted] any type of conviction would have disqualified a man from duty with the battalion, but [redacted] nobody in the group [redacted] was disqualified. 50X1

Company Level Training

- [redacted] in East Germany [redacted] underwent very little garrison training. There was a daily training schedule that was posted, but usually only a small fraction of the company followed the schedule since only a small number of men could participate in the training at any one time. One of three platoons was always on duty during the day and another was asleep, having come off duty in the morning. That left only one platoon available for training each day. 50X1
11. All the training that was given [redacted] was on the platoon level, with the platoon leader as instructor in all cases. The only exception to this was political training, which was given by the company political officer. When the men of the company did participate in training, they had some close-order drill, individual weapons training, guard training, cleaning of weapons and billets, political training, and tactical training. In May 1954, [redacted] began to receive rather intensive training in atomic defense, including both theoretical and tactical training. 2 50X1
- a. Use of Training Literature - In general, the garrison training was quite lax because guard duties of the company took precedence over all training. Since these guard duties limited the number of hours that the men could spend in group training, EM were issued many booklets, pamphlets, and brochures so that they could read them and study them closely. Much political information was disseminated in this manner. [redacted] the following booklets, which were unclassified, were issued to all the EM of the unit: 50X1

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- (1) Infantry Manual (Nastavleniye po strelkovomu delu)
- (2) Sub-Machine Gun Manual (Nastavleniye po Avtomatu)
- (3) Military Regulations (Ditsiplinarnyy Ustav)
- (4) Manual on Garrison Guard Duty (Ustav Garnizyonnoy Karaulnoy Sluzhby)
- (5) Aids to the Listener of Politics (Pomoshch Slushatelyu Politiki) Published in 1952.
- (6) A book which was issued to about six men in the unit but which was also passed around to the other men was titled Infantry Soldier's Handbook, (Pomoshch soldatu Pekhoti). (See sketch on page 8.)

All publication dates were unknown except that cited above.

- b. Political Training - Political training was conducted twice weekly, in periods of two hours duration. This training was prescribed by the training schedule on Tuesdays and Fridays. It was conducted by the company political officer, who often lectured or conducted a discussion-type class. This was the only training from which no one was exempt except the men on duty at the time of instruction.

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- c. Training Schedules - [redacted] the following was the posted training schedule, Monday through Friday, [redacted]

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Reveille	0600-0605
Clean-up and personal hygiene	0605-0700
Morning inspection	0700-0715
Commander's time	0715-0800
Breakfast	0800-0845
Training	0845-1300
Care and cleaning of weapons	1300-1330
Clean-up and rest period	1330-1420
Dinner	1420-1500
Compulsory rest period	1500-1630
Training	1630-1830
Care and cleaning of weapons	1830-1900
Commander's time	1900-2000
Roll call	2000-2015
Supper	2015-2100
Free time	2100-2200
Taps	2200

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Personnel not on guard duty on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, were free and could leave the caserne, in groups, after 1300 hours on Saturday and anytime on Sunday. However, most company personnel were normally on guard once a day for eight hours; and on holidays, guards were often doubled.

d. Weapons Firing - Individual weapons firing took place quite frequently. [redacted] Garrison Battalion, [redacted] fired once each month. [redacted] at least one platoon of the company was on the small arms range, which could accommodate four firers at once, a few hours each day. This range was within walking distance of [redacted] unit's caserne, but [redacted] could not pinpoint it further. [redacted] men that were serving their first year in the army fired nine rounds in three-round bursts at 100 meters. The time allowed was 15 seconds for each burst, and three hits gave an "excellent" score. Two hits were "good" and one hit was "average". The "older soldiers" fired three rounds of slow fire with the SMG at 50 meters but this was not scored. They also fired nine rounds at 150 meters in three, three-round bursts, the time allowed for each burst being 10 seconds. Four hits were considered "excellent", three "good", and two "average". The LMG gunner in the platoon also fired nine rounds in three-round bursts and the scoring was the same as for the "older soldiers" who fired the SMG. All the above firing was done in the prone position and targets in all cases were silhouettes. [redacted] the distance to the target was increased from 100 meters and 150 meters to 200 meters so that all men fired from the same distance. Officers and several of the EM fired the pistol from 25 meters in a standing position, but no score was kept.

e. Daily inspections [redacted] were conducted by the company CO. [redacted] a lieutenant colonel, (name unknown, from CSFG and a colonel from the Berlin Komendatura) came to the company to conduct the semi-annual inspection which took place [redacted] This inspection lasted for five days, during which all phases of training were observed. [redacted] there was a special inspection held to check on the training in atomic defense. 2

f. Alerts - [redacted] an unidentified German border guard (?) battalion would also assist the 162d Separate Special Garrison Battalion in case of an emergency. [redacted] a LMG would be set up at each of the vehicle checkpoints by source's unit during alerts. [redacted] there was an alert plan [redacted] but no alerts occurred [redacted] every soldier in the company knew the alert plan, the alert signals, and what they meant, and the assembly area for the company and the battalion. Each of his company's walking patrols and sentry vehicle checkpoints had one rocket pistol for the purpose of alerting the remainder of the company. These were the only means of communication for the walking patrols; the rocket pistols were also used in the checkpoints when telephone communication was disrupted. The flare signals were to be given by the sentries. [redacted] company never had occasion to use flares [redacted] following information on the meanings of flares used:

Color of SignalAction Indicated by Flare

3 red

Signal for the company to fall back to the Bucher forest, about five kilometers east of Schildow. This

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was also the assembly area for the rest of the battalion. If there was no chance to get to the assembly area, all men in the caserne would fight there.

1 red and 1 green

Help needed. Upon this signal the alert squad, which was composed of nine men with eight SMGs and one LMG, would go and aid the unit signalling.

2 green and 1 white

Call for the OD.

2 green

Call for alert squad.

2 red and 1 white

Breakthrough - cannot hold. Send alert squad.

g. Night Training - [ ] never received any night training.

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h. NCO Schools - Several men [ ] were sent to a Soviet Army NCO school in Berlin/Karlshorst.

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i. Maneuvers, Marches, and Bivouacs - The 162d Separate Special Garrison Battalion [ ] did not participate in any maneuvers, marches, or bivouacs [ ]

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#### CBR TRAINING

##### Chemical Warfare

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13. [ ] during his [ ] training [ ] never received any chemical warfare training other than having been shown a Shlem-1 gasmask on one occasion during a short lecture by his platoon leader. The purpose of the gasmask was explained. [ ] no one in his training battalion was issued a gas mask during basic training. [ ] had never gone through a gas chamber and could not name any gases or types.

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14. [ ] remembered having two or three lectures in class on chemical warfare. The instructor for these classes was [ ] platoon leader, Lt. Novikov. When [ ] arrived [ ] was issued a gas mask which [ ] identified as the Shlem-1. The number 706 was stamped on the gas mask cannister and this number was recorded in his service book. One of the first lectures instructed the men how to put the gas mask on. It was explained that the cotton-like material in the gas mask carrying case was used to clean the eyepieces.

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15. In another of the lectures, the platoon was shown some protective chemical warfare socks. The instructor showed them how the socks were to be put on and removed. These were the same socks that were to be used for protection against atomic warfare. In one lecture the men were told that there were a number of different kinds of gases.

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##### Individual and Small Unit Atomic Defense Training

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16. [ ] received some platoon-level tactical training involving defense measures to be taken in case of atomic attack. [ ]

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did not see much difference between atomic defense tactics and the ordinary infantry tactics taught by his platoon leader. 2 The other platoons of the company and, less frequently, other companies of the battalion practiced these same exercises. During one of the atomic defense lectures, the platoon leader showed the platoon a cape which he said was effective against chemical and radiological warfare agents. 2

Biological Warfare Training

-7. [redacted] never received any BW training himself nor heard of anyone else receiving such training. [redacted] during one of the CW training classes, the instructor mentioned that the United States had used bacteriological warfare in Korea, but the instructor did not elaborate on this statement.

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173.5  
238.4  
223.47  
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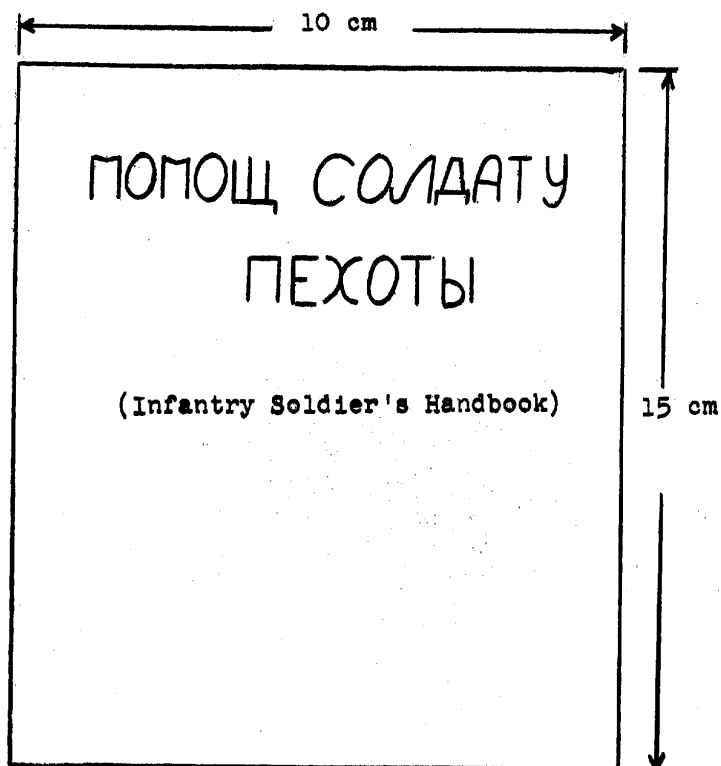
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Sketch of Appearance of Infantry Soldiers' Handbook

(Not drawn to scale)



Description: Cover: Light Green  
Lettering: Blue  
Date of Publication: 1952  
Size: Approximately 10 cm x 15 cm,  
and 600 pages.

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